

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

قَالُوا سُبْحٰنَكَ

لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا اِلاّ مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا

اِنَّكَ اَنْتَ الْعَلِیْمُ الْحَكِیْمُ

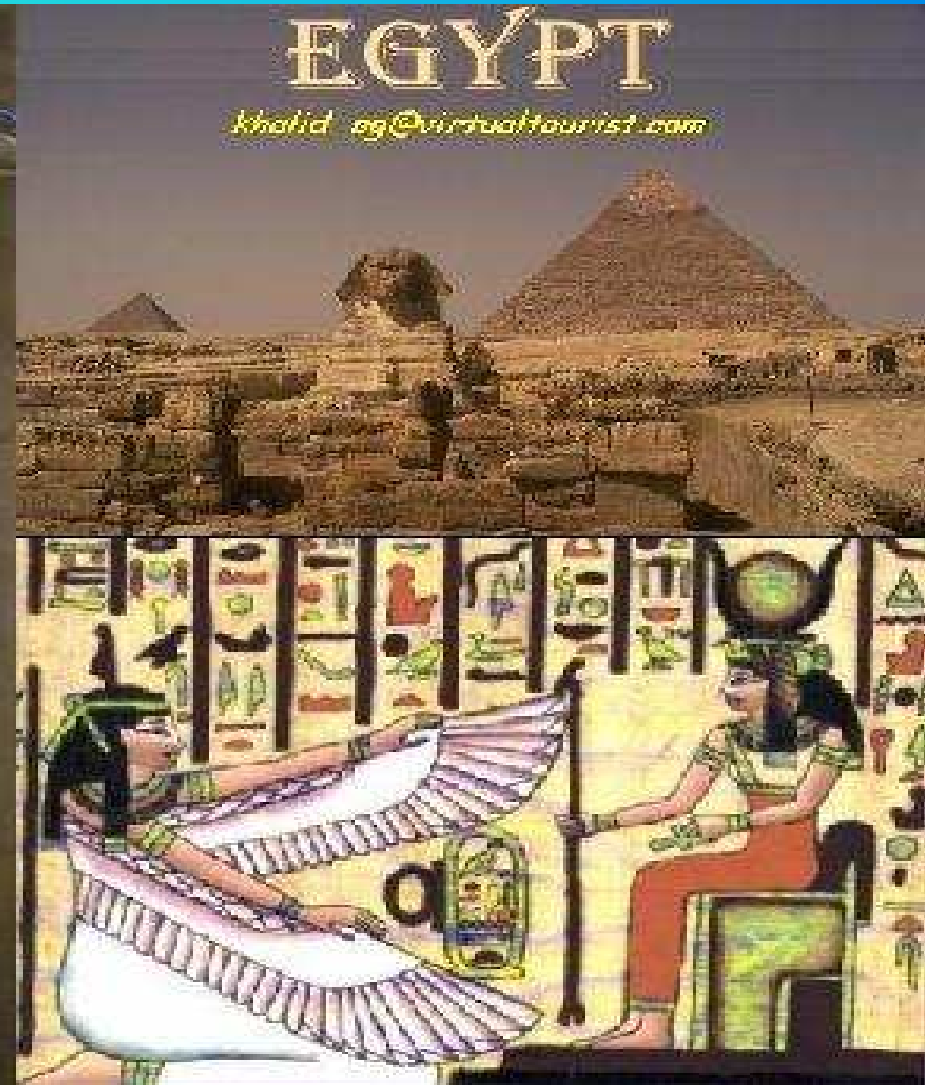
صَدَقَ اللّٰهُ الْعَظِیْمُ

سُوْرَةُ الْبَقْرَةِ اٰیةٌ (۳۲)

Arab Republic of Egypt



Seed in Egypt





Seed Potato Certification System in Egypt

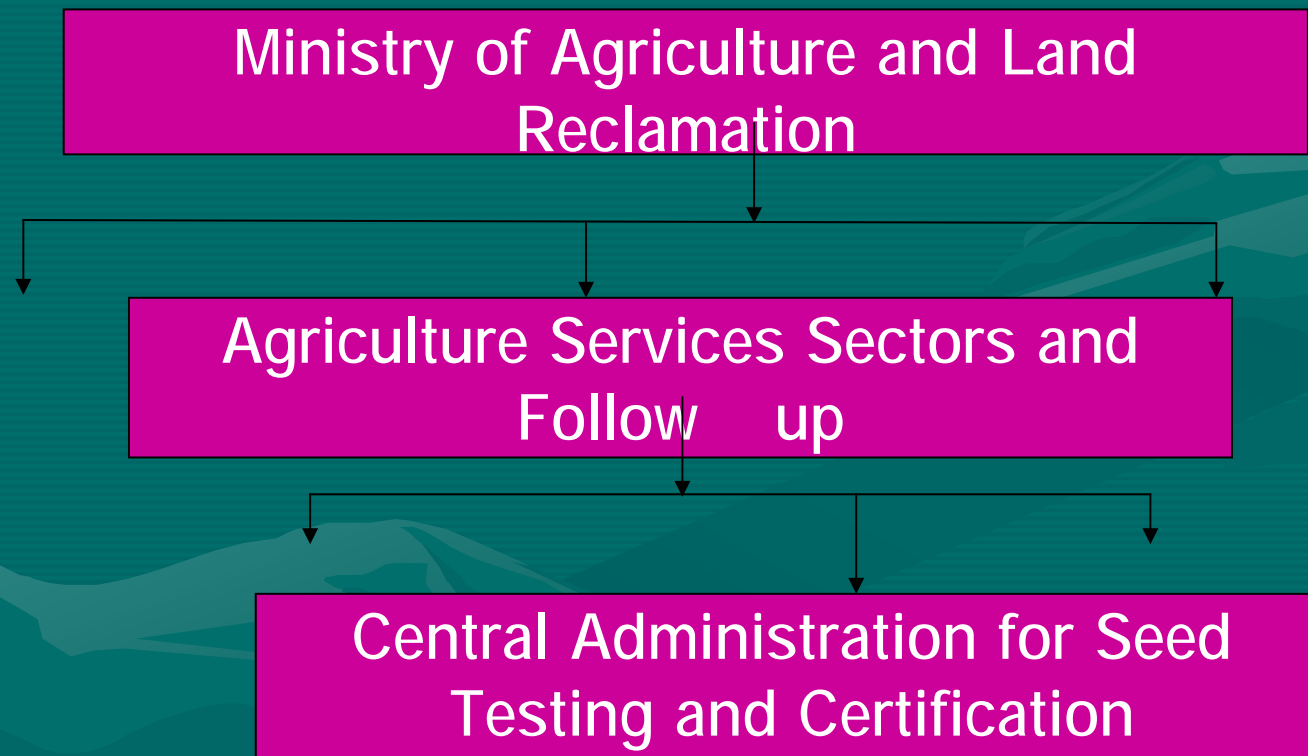
Eng. / Salah Mohamed Moawed

**Head of Central Administration for
Seed Testing and Certification**



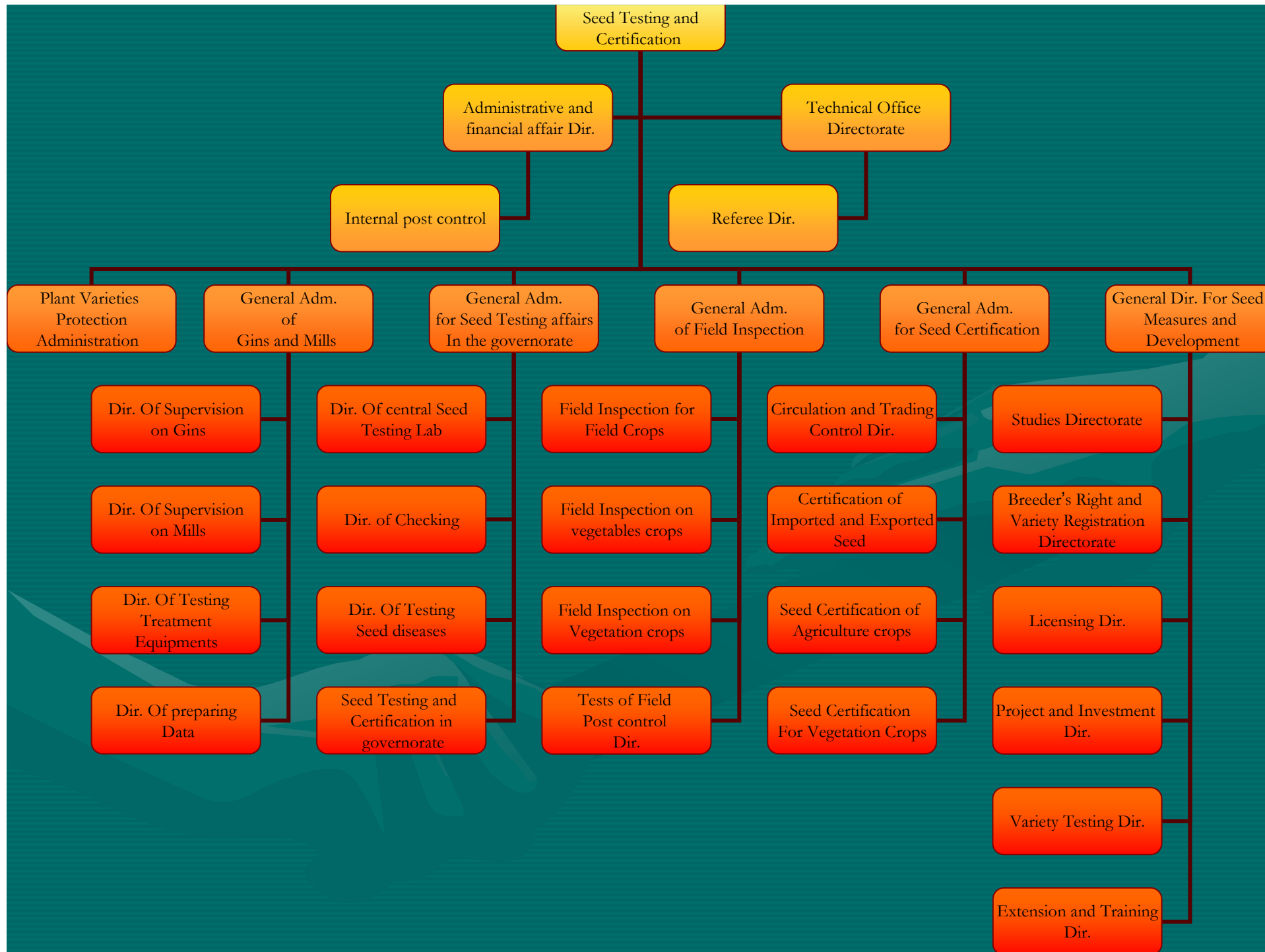
Organizational structure

Organizational Structure for Central Administration for Seed Testing and Certification



Central Administration for Seed Testing & Certification (CASC)

Central Administration for Seed Testing and Certification is the specialized administrative side which is responsible for all the works of Field Inspection on the seed production fields and Lab audit to produce seed lots, also seed post control during its circulation through agriculture legislations concerning seed production by governmental and private sectors, also control on imported seed and its circulation, this is done through the administrations of Seed Testing and Certification in the governorates that their number reaches 22 administrations, in addition to 11 seed testing stations in the governorates and central lab in CASC certified from International Seed Testing Organization ISTA and obtained Quality Assurance Certification (ISO), four locations conduct post control tests for seed quality.



National Legislation

- Agriculture Law no. 53 / 1966 which derived from it many ministerial decrees as the following:-

- The ministerial decree no. 1517 / 1993, Central Administration for Seed affairs assumes the implementation of agriculture laws provisions on seed potato.

- The ministerial decree no. 1550 / 1994, to assume seed certification equipments, tested the fields of seed production for multiplication degrees (basic – registered - certified) to ensure from its validity for the specifications provided by Ministerial decree (Field Inspection).

- The ministerial decree no. 285 / 1995 (Field Inspection) determines the levels of acceptance for seed potato in terms of genetic purity, plant diseases and virus, In all cases, the fields should be completely free from Brown Rot disease.

- The ministerial decree no. 326 / 1997 (Lab Testing) assumes the equipments specialized in seed certification at Ministry of Agriculture and lab testing of seed lots for different multiplication degrees to assure from its validity and its correspondence of rejection and acceptance levels in lab testing and with regard to diseases.

Seed potato importation

- An annual Ministerial decree issued on the statement of technical conditions and controls the importation of potato tubers to cultivate the summer season which produced certified seed to be cultivated to produce exportation potato to the different world countries includes European Union Countries, also the import seed has been cultivated to produce directly ware potato or for industrialization purpose, this decree includes the allowed varieties for importation, its class and size of tubers, the sanitary certification, the sanitary rejection and the acceptance levels.

potato exportation to overseas

- A Joint annual ministerial decree (Ministry of Foreign and Industry and Ministry of Agriculture) concerning the system of potato production, preparation, testing and exportation to European Union countries which accurately and extremely determines how produced, tested and exported potato and the punishment procedures on the exporter who has been proved his conviction in the export potato that infected by Brown Rot and stopped the packaging station that opposed to certification conditions, the punishments includes the specialized agriculture quarantine committee in case of discovering apparent infection at the arrival port for exportation potato and the responsibility of the committee for this case has been proved.

Seed Potato Certification

- The system of seed potato certification from the beginning stages for seed importation that have good qualification starts under the supervision of Central Administration of Agriculture Quarantine and Central Administration for Seed Testing and Certification, then follow up the supervision and cooperation between them jointly with the project of Survey and Control Brown Rot disease, concerning seed potato certification and production in Egypt, it passes by the following stages:

1. Survey and Control Brown Rot disease Project audits and determined the lands free from Brown Rot disease and preparing reports by these areas one of them submit to Central Administration for Seed Testing and Certification

2. The interested sides in seed potato production should submit a request for this regard to CASC to determine the variety to be produced and the land that will be cultivated and the date of cultivation.

3. CASC tests these requests and assured from their rightness and their conformity with the technical conditions of seed potato production as defined by agriculture legislation, the most important condition is the condition of cultivation in side a land free from Brown Rot disease and the conformity the condition of triple agricultural rotation and the seed class used in cultivation.



4. A representative from CASC attends the cultivation to assure from the conformity of all the technical conditions related to the cultivation and the rightness of the data of producer side for seed.

5. The field inspector visits the fields of seed potato production from 3 to 4 visits to make the apparent audit for plants and excludes the non matching fields with the acceptance levels that approved by ministerial decree no. 1550 / 1997, in his final visit, he makes an initial estimation for the average productivity of these fields to be a guide when certified the produced seed from the field.

Internal audit for lot and field inspection



6. The producer side of seed informs CASC by the date of harvest which its representative attends to supervise on harvest processes and compared the actually produced quantity by the estimated quantity of the same field in the last Field Inspection visit, also the transportation to the centers of classification and packing has been occurred under its supervision.

7. The classification and packing occurred at the centers of packing, a sample from lot has been taken for disease testing, in case it passes the test, the certification labels will be put for these quantities and the licenses will be issued for their transportation, their storage in fridges which has a pervious license by that according to technical conditions to maintain the seed quality and ease of supervision inside the fridges.

8. When demand seed potato out from fridge for cultivation purpose or for commercialization, another sample will be withdraw for sanitary testing and are not allowed for this seed to get out only after ensuring from the safety of this seed specially from Brown Rot disease and in case of discovering any infection in this seed, the certification labels will be removed from the bags and will not be used in cultivation.

Quality Control / Quality Assurance

Through the pervious review, we find that the attention was focused on the system of Quality Control in seed potato certification and production, but since 2005 and in frame of French Egyptian cooperation in seed potato certification field. The work starts in establishing Quality Assurance system in seed potato Certification and production for the purpose of the insurance and the stability of potato production high quality through creates a regular environment to supervise on seed potato production in all stages, since the beginning of the project and through the last three years of working by this system, the following has been achieved:

1. A system has been established to control the grantee of legal application for seed potato certification and production through the review of agriculture legislations and ministerial decrees.

2. Standards and a specific regular method of work have been established through all stages of seed certification and production, it has been registered, and guidelines brochures have been printed to distributed on the staff.

3. The continuous training for the staff in the field of Field Inspection, Lab Testing and quality assurance to do the assigned works to them, the training was in country and overseas Egypt, and the benefit by experts from France in the pervious mentioned fields.



4. Establishing data base for regulations, procedures, instructions, used technical forms and used technical rules.

5. Information Center in CASC prepared by new computer and fast printers to computerize seed potato certification and production data since determine the areas free from Brown Rot disease and passing by Field Inspection procedures, initial estimation for expected crops and store this seed in fridges by certification labels with distinguish code number not repeated at the level of production centers or in the next years.

6. In country and overseas training for the staff of Information Center to prepare program for the purpose of printing seed potato certification labels and developed these programs to match the changeable in this field

